

## Refinery Events

July 12, 2013—July 18, 2013

The following events were obtained from the Department of Energy (DOE) website:

### **Update: New Hydrocracker Starts Up at Valero's 205,000 b/d St. Charles, Louisiana Refinery July 11**

The new hydrocracker at Valero's St. Charles refinery has successfully and safely begun operations and is increasing toward planned rates. The new hydrocracker unit's throughput is rated at 60,000 b/d. Valero started up a similar hydrocracker at its Port Arthur refinery in December 2012. The hydrocrackers were designed to capitalize on high crude oil and low natural gas prices, and produce primarily diesel to meet growing demand in both domestic and export markets. Valero is pursuing projects to expand throughput capacity to 75,000 b/d at each of the new hydrocrackers. With successful permitting, the expansion projects are expected to be complete in 2015. In addition, Valero is pursuing a 20,000 b/d expansion of the existing hydrocracker at its Meraux refinery that should be complete by the end of 2014.

<http://pdf.reuters.com/htmlnews/8knews.asp?i=43059c3bf0e37541&u=urn:newsml:reuters.com:20130711:nHUGdbzr> Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **Alkylation Unit Shut at Philadelphia Energy Solutions 330,000 b/d Philadelphia Refinery July 12**

Philadelphia Energy Solutions is shutting down an alkylation unit for up to 10 days, reducing gasoline production at its catalytic cracker, according to Energy News Today.

Reuters, 11:54 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **Update: Phillips 66's 198,400 Ponca City, Oklahoma Refinery Back to Normal Operations July 12**

Normal operations resumed today after a power disruption on Thursday. The refinery suffered storm-related power disruption and was in the process of restarting several units on Thursday.

Reuters, 12:56 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **FCCU Shut at Shell's 600,000 b/d Motiva Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 11**

Motiva Enterprises on Thursday confirmed the shutdown of a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at the Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with regulators. The refinery experienced an operational upset and flaring due to a compressor trip at the FCCU, the filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said.

Reuters, 13:46 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **Update: FCCU Undergoing Maintenance at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 11**

A gasoline-producing fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) was undergoing maintenance yesterday and is expected to be back in operation soon, according to a company spokesperson. Valero had earlier said that the unit was running at less-than-planned production levels.

Reuters, 12:33 July 11, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **Flaring Reported at Western Refining's 122,000 b/d El Paso, Texas Refinery July 12**

Flaring was reported from the north plant main flare and Western Refining has begun repairs on a flare gas recovery compressor, according to a filing made to the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 2:12 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **CCU Upset Reported at Phillips 66's 100,000 b/d Ferndale, Washington Refinery July 12**

A catalytic cracking unit (CCU) upset was reported on July 1, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency on Friday. The company also reported the release of hydrogen cyanide from the unit.

Reuters, 13:06 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **Tail Gas Unit Emissions Reported at BP's 225,000 b/d Cherry Point, Washington Refinery July 12**

Hydrogen sulfide emissions from a tail gas unit due to an upset were reported July 1, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency.

Reuters, 13:16 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-12-13.

### **North Atlantic Refining Cuts Runs , Shuts Hydrdocracker Due to Sulfur Unit Problem at Its 115,000 b/d Come By Chance, Newfoundland Refinery July 12**

North Atlantic Refining Ltd was forced on Friday to reduce production at its 115,000 b/d Come By Chance refinery after the failure of a sulfur unit last week. The plant's 38,000 b/d hydrocracker unit had to be taken down as well as other operations due to a problem with the sulfur unit. The sulfur unit is expected to resume operations this week.

Reuters, 13:15 July 12, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-15-13.

### **FCCU and Alkylation Units Restart at Valero's 80,887 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery July 15; Units Tripped July 14 Due to Issue With Wet Gas Compressor**

Valero Energy Corp. restarted a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) and alkylation unit early Monday at its Wilmington refinery after they tripped offline on Sunday. The units tripped due to an issue with a wet gas compressor. An unspecified unit also tripped on Tuesday morning, causing a release of sulfur dioxide emissions, according to a filing with regulators.

Reuters, 10:00 July 15, 2013

Reuters, 2:46 July 16, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-16-13.

### **Update: Shell's 600,000 b/d Motiva Port Arthur, Texas Refinery Returns to Normal Operations July 15**

Shell on Monday confirmed its Port Arthur refinery had returned to normal operations after shutting down a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) on July 11.

Reuters, 15:43 July 15, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-16-13.

### **Weather-Related Power Outage Leads to Emissions at Alon's 80,000 b/d Krotz Springs, Louisiana Refinery July 16**

Alon USA Energy Inc reported sulfur dioxide emissions due to a weather-related power outage at its Krotz Springs refinery, according to a filing with the U.S. National Response Center.

Reuters, 2:31 July 16, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-16-13.

### **Update: FCCU Remains Shut at Valero's 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery July 17**

A fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) remains shut for work and the company didn't have a restart date. The FCCU began shutting down on July 12.

Reuters, 10:19 July 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-17-13.

### **Hydrocracker Flares due to Compressor Loss at Flint Hills' 260,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery July 17**

Flaring due to compressor loss was reported at the Corpus Christi refinery. The company had reported a gas release from a hydrocracker due to a compressor loss at the refinery and an official declined to comment on the current status of the unit.

Reuters, 9:50 July 17, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-17-13.

### **Unspecified Unit Shut at Chevron's 245,000 b/d Richmond, California Refinery July 17**

Chevron Corp reported an unspecified unit shutdown at its Richmond refinery on Wednesday, according to a filing with the Contra Costa Health Services made public on Thursday.

Reuters, 12:10 July 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.

### **Unspecified Unit Shut at Tesoro's 166,000 b/d Golden Eagle, California Refinery July 15**

Tesoro Corp reported the shutdown of an unspecified unit at its Golden Eagle refinery in Martinez, California, according to a filing with Contra Costa Health Services. In a separate filing, Tesoro reported a gas leak from an out-of-service line at the refinery on July 16.

Reuters, 11:56 July 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.

### **Unspecified Unit Shut at Shell's 156,400 b/d Martinez, California Refinery July 14**

Royal Dutch Shell Plc reported an unspecified unit shutdown at its refinery in Martinez, California, on July 14, according to a filing with the Contra Costa Health Services made public on Thursday.

Reuters, 11:42 July 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.

### **HCU Compressor Briefly Shut at Flint Hills' 260,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery July 18**

Flint Hills Resources reported a brief, unplanned shutdown of a second stage recycle compressor at the plant's hydrocracking unit (HCU), according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The incident, in the West Plant section of the refining complex, ended after 10 minutes. The current operating status of the compressor and hydrocracker unit is unknown.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3232607/Latest-News/Flint-Hills-reports-brief-compressorshutdown-at-Corpus-Christi-refinery.html> Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.

### **New 60,000 b/d HCU Increasing to Planned Rates at Valero's 205,000 b/d St Charles, Louisiana Refinery July 16**

Valero Energy Corp said Tuesday that a newly constructed hydrocracking unit (HCU) at its St. Charles refinery started up successfully and would be increasing to planned rates over the next few days. The HCU's throughput capacity is rated at 60,000 b/d and will boost the refinery's diesel production.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20130716-709046.html>

Reuters, 10:53 July 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.

### **Flare Gas Compressor Shut at Phillips 66's 362,000 b/d Wood River, Illinois Refinery July 18**

Phillips 66 reported a flare gas compressor shutdown at its Wood River refinery, according to a filing with state pollution regulators. There were also sulfur dioxide emissions, the filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency said.

Reuters, 4:14 July 18, 2013. Posted to DOE website 7-18-13.